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examples. Our plan aims at the illustration of the development of rug-weaving in all countries of the Near East which have been important in this art, rather than at the display of any one class of rugs alone. Consequently, the rug-weaving of Turkey and of India will be represented as well as that of Persia.

Turkish rugs will be represented in three groups, namely (1) rugs from Central Asia Minor and Armenia; (2) rugs from Western Asia Minor, and (3) rugs from Syria. A few rare examples of rugs made as early as the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries will lend unusual interest to this part of the exhibition.

Of special importance will be a group of Indian rugs of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, which it has not been possible until recently to differentiate from the Persian weaves by which they were so strongly influenced. Of these Indian rugs, a group hardly represented at all in the Yerkes collection, some of the finest examples will be shown.

The Kaiser Friedrich Museum of Berlin will lend to our exhibition a small rug from Asia Minor dating from the fourteenth century, which holds a highly important place in the history of Oriental rugs, being known in the literature of the subject as the oldest rug in existence.

The following private collectors, among others, will contribute: Benjamin Altman, Hon. W. A. Clark, Theodore M. Davis, of Newport, Dr. Denman W. Ross, of Cambridge, P. A. B. Widener, of Philadelphia, and C. F. Williams, of Norristown, Pa. About thirty or forty rugs will be shown, and an illustrated catalogue, with an historical introduction to the subject, will be prepared as a guide to the exhibition.

W. R. V.

## THE EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION

**D**URING the past winter the Egyptian Expedition of the Museum has conducted the excavations at the Temple of Hibis in Kharga Oasis that were briefly outlined in the BULLETIN of last November.<sup>1</sup> The temple,

it will be recalled, is one built chiefly in the reign of Darius the Great, about the beginning of the fifth century before Christ, and its clearing was undertaken by the expedition because of its importance as the only architectural monument of the period between the decay of the Theban Kingdom and the conquest of Alexander the Great which exists to-day in good preservation.

Prof. Gaston Maspero, Directeur Général du Service des Antiquités d'Égypte, assigned M. Emile Baraize, an engineer of the Service, to the task of consolidating and restoring the temple at the expense of the Egyptian Government while it was being cleared by the expedition. The latter owes its acknowledgments to Professor Maspero for making it possible to conduct the two pieces of work—the clearing and restoration of the temple—in coöperation, and especially to M. Baraize for his unfailing helpfulness, not only in the special task he was undertaking on behalf of the Service, but also in all of the other work connected with the excavations. The collating of previously published copies of the temple hieroglyphic inscriptions with the originals and the copying of inscriptions and scenes which have not been published heretofore or which have been brought to light during the past winter were started by N. de G. Davies of the expedition. In connection with and supplementing the Davies copies Friedrich Koch has begun a series of photographs which it is hoped to finish during the coming season, and which it is intended shall be a complete record of all the reliefs and inscriptions in the temple. The Greek decrees mentioned in the expedition's last report in the BULLETIN, as well as some new decrees, shorter inscriptions, and graffiti found this year, have been copied and are being prepared for publication by H. G. Evelyn-White, while the plans and architectural drawings are being done by William J. Jones, both of whom are members of the expedition.

The field work in the oasis began the first of December. As the temple is situated in the midst of the peasants' farms, the first step was to open negotiations with the landowners of the neighborhood, with a

<sup>1</sup> BULLETIN, IV: 199.

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HYPOSTYLE HALL, TEMPLE OF HIBIS, KHARGA. LOOKING WEST, DURING THE  
COURSE OF THE REMOVAL OF THE FALLEN BLOCKS

## THE EXHIBITION OF RUGS

THE special loan exhibition of early rugs will be opened on Tuesday, November 1st. This exhibition has been planned for the purpose of increasing the appreciation of rugs of the best period—the fifteenth, sixteenth, and seventeenth centuries—and showing their superiority in comparison with those of eighteenth and nineteenth century manufacture. None of these later products will be shown, that is, of the Bokhara, Ladig, Meles, Ghiordes or Kula looms, as they are already well known in this country, and

by many are valued too highly for the reason that they are thought to be of a much earlier date than they really are. Their inferiority in design and color is apparent to one who knows the infinite variety of pattern and the individuality of rugs of the earlier weaves. Last spring the exhibition of the Yerkes collection offered a splendid opportunity to study fine examples of the best periods. In that marvelous collection, which will probably never be equaled, the Persian animal rugs were an important feature. This class of rugs will therefore be represented in our exhibition by only a few characteristic



FIG. 1. HYPOSTYLE HALL, LOOKING EAST, AFTER THE REMOVAL OF THE SAND, SHOWING FALLEN ROOF AND COLUMNS

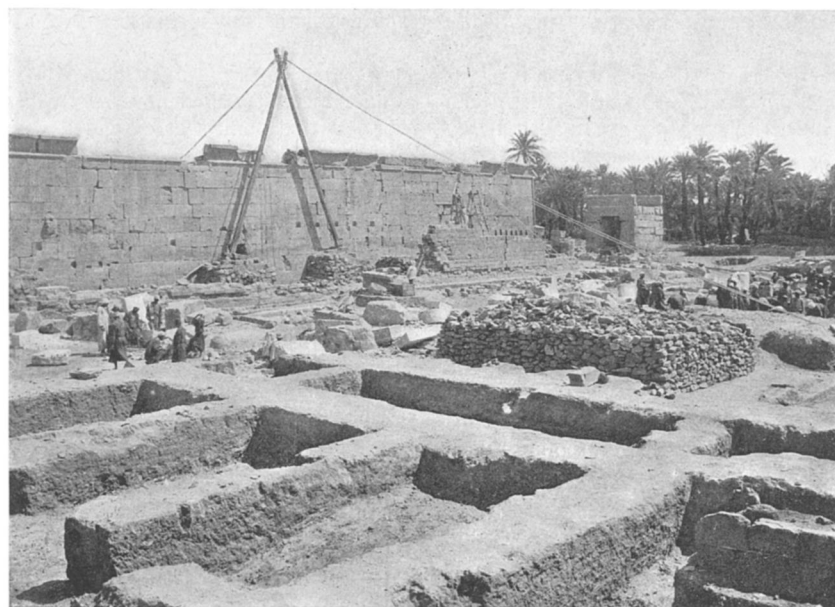


FIG. 2. GENERAL VIEW OF THE EXCAVATIONS SOUTH OF THE TEMPLE. IN THE FOREGROUND, PART OF THE FOUNDATIONS OF PTOLEMAIC BUILDING

view to procuring a place where the earth and sand from the excavations could be dumped and obtaining the title to some of the land in private possession adjoining the ruins which it was desirable to dig. Eventually an arrangement was made by which the expedition was able to dump into a low salt-marsh at the foot of the temple hill, and in exchange for this filling and improvement of their lands, the owners gave up some of the land about the eastern gateways. These questions took up a great deal of time throughout the winter and their ultimate solution was almost entirely due to Mr. Baraize, but meanwhile, about the middle of December, a preliminary agreement had been arrived at, a light railway was installed similar to that which had been in use at Lisht, and excavations were begun at the portal of Darius and pushed westward. From the very beginning of the excavations, fallen blocks from the temple were found, buried to greater or less depths in the soil and drift-sand. First to be cleared was the portico of Nectanebo. Part of the screen-walls of the north and south sides had always remained visible above the surface, but in the course of the excavations practically all of the columns and cornice which had risen above these two sides were brought to light, lying just as they had fallen, each stone in relation to the next in such a way that a reconstruction of the elevation could be definitely made. As the work proceeded through the great eastern doorway of the temple, the fallen blocks were found in greater and greater numbers until, when inside the large hypostyle hall, the removal of the sand brought to light a mass of stones in great confusion, filling the hall to a depth of several meters above the pavement (figs. 6 and 1). These were the drums and capitals of six fallen columns and the architraves and roofing-slabs which had been supported by them. Most of the columns could be completely recovered, but the majority of the pieces from the roof were so broken that to restore them to their original positions was found to be impossible. In order to continue the clearing, all of them had to be removed, but as the greater part were ex-

tremely massive the process was slow and difficult (cf. p. 221).

At this time the force of workmen numbered nearly two hundred; and as it was impossible to employ so many in the hypostyle, the majority were transferred to the excavation of the exterior. Eventually, as the entire task of transporting the blocks in the hypostyle was undertaken by M. Baraize, all of the expedition's workmen were engaged in running spurs of the light railway around the north and south sides of the temple, and in clearing away the larger drifts of sand and débris collected there. In this way two side-openings were found into the offering-hall, by which the chambers in the back of the temple could be entered and cleared while the hypostyle was still blocked. The excavations on both sides of the temple were carried on by means of the railway down to the ancient surface level. To the north an area of over one thousand square meters was dug in this way to a depth of two or three meters, and sounding trenches were sunk below the surface to bed rock. On the west the work had to be stopped within ten meters of the temple wall; but on the south, where the cultivation did not approach the temple so closely, a much larger area covering about three thousand square meters, was cleared (fig. 2). The work at this point was extended early in February to a low mound rising on the edge of the cultivation where traces of buildings had been found on the surface. The greater part of the rest of the season was spent in exploring the network of mud-brick walls uncovered here. At the end of the work some modern structures were removed from among the eastern gateways, but no other attempt to excavate in the palm grove has yet been made. The work in the field was brought to a close the first of May.

The consolidation and restoration of the temple by M. Baraize was begun about the middle of January and continued to the end of the season. A great deal of this time was spent in replacing with new masonry the stones in the lower courses which had been eaten away by the moisture and salts in the soil in which they had been



FIG. 3. THE WEST END OF THE TEMPLE DURING THE COURSE OF EXCAVATION, SHOWING PARTIALLY DESTROYED WEST WALL

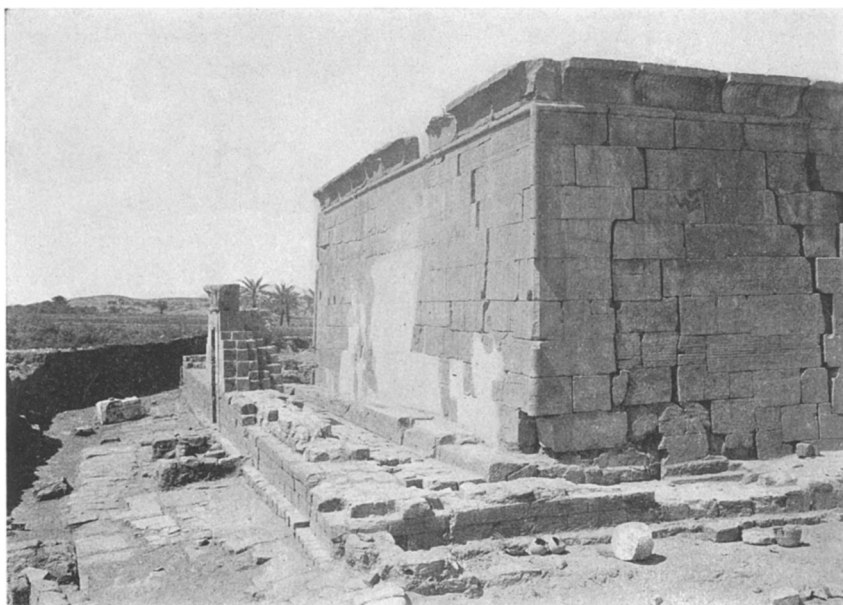


FIG. 4. THE WEST END OF THE TEMPLE AFTER EXCAVATION AND RESTORATION. IN FOREGROUND, THE PTOLEMAIC WALL

buried, in order to make the walls capable of sustaining their own weight after they were exposed. In the case of one partly fallen column in the hypostyle hall, this operation necessitated the taking down of the standing courses and the complete renewal of the foundations. In addition a great deal of the fallen structure recovered in the clearing was restored to its original positions. In the hypostyle two of the six fallen columns were set up again and some parts of the screen-wall and columns of the offering hall; a great many blocks of the fallen cornice from the exterior and some of the frieze at the top of the walls inside the temple were replaced; and the greater part of the west wall of the temple was rebuilt from the bottom courses to its original height, such of the blocks as were missing being replaced with new masonry (figs. 3 and 4). The restoration is to be continued next year in conjunction with the further excavation.

The clearing and rebuilding of the Temple of Hibis has disclosed new features in the plan and decoration, including some interesting reliefs which have been brought to light on walls heretofore buried. One shows the king, Darius, in a boat, picking papyrus flowers to offer to the god Min, and another, the god Sutekh, the popular deity of the oasis, slaying the Serpent of Evil (fig. 5). In the ruins of the portico of Nectanebo there was found, besides the complete columns from the north and south rows which are to be reerected, an isolated capital of elaborate papyrus-flower form in excellent preservation, with its coloring almost intact. It is probably

the capital of one of the four columns of the almost completely destroyed eastern façade, but although its position has been ascertained with a good deal of certainty, not enough of the column and substructure remains to replace it. It has therefore been

brought to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Additional knowledge of the history of the temple has been gained also by the excavations. A fragment was found of an offering bowl of dark blue schist, dedicated in the reign of Apries (B. C. 588-569), which had been apparently a piece of temple furniture and which therefore points to the existence of a temple on this site at least as early as the Saïte period. Of the existing temple two stages



FIG. 5. RELIEF FROM NORTHWEST CORNER OF HYPOSTYLE HALL—SUTEKH SLAYING THE SERPENT OF EVIL. REIGN OF DARIUS

of construction have been determined earlier than the reign of Nectanebo, and in Ptolemaic times additions and changes were made which have been unknown hitherto. An exterior stone wall surrounding all of the temple except the east façade and inclosing a narrow passageway like those at Kom Ombo and Edfu has been discovered and dated to the reign of Ptolemy II, Philadelphos (B.C. 285-247) from a fragment of the dedication inscription in Greek. Among the fallen blocks of this wall there have been found a great many pieces of relief of the reigns of Ptolemy III, Euergetes (B.C. 247-222) and of a later Ptolemy and his consort Cleopatra, but it is impossible to tell yet whether they come from decorations of the wall itself or from some other structures which may have existed near by (fig. 7). Indeed, the whole site seems to have flourished throughout the Ptolemaic period, as besides these structures and the inclosure wall and pylons on the east

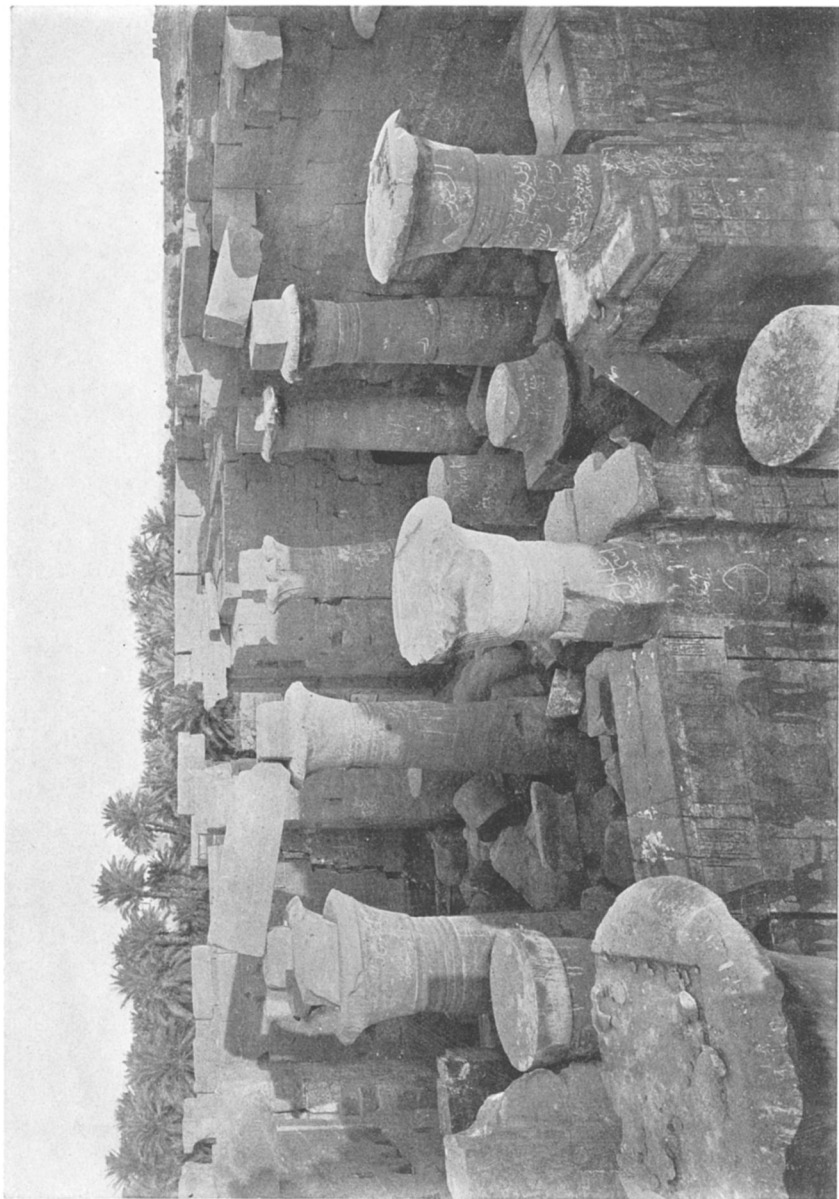


FIG. 6. HYPOSTYLE HALL, VIEWED FROM THE TOP OF THE TEMPLE AFTER THE REMOVAL OF THE SAND,  
SHOWING FALLEN ROOF AND COLUMNS



already known, there were discovered on the south the foundations of a large Ptolemaic brick structure with a stone portico and near by were found coins, pottery, and small bronze ex-votos which had been originally in the temple. This prosperity continued at least to the first centuries of the Roman period, when a certain Hermias dedicated a new pavement and one Heraklios built piers in the hypostyle to support the then endangered roof.

But from the third or fourth century after Christ evident signs of decay are noticeable. The inclosure walls were broken in places and private houses encroached on the temple area. From these the excavations recovered coins, ostraka, a bronze lamp, and a good deal

of pottery. At the abandonment of the temple as a place of pagan worship the dwellings were built against the outside walls and among the columns of the hypostyle halls, and in the northeast corner there was erected a small Christian church. Fragments of glaze found in connection with this last occupation show that it continued until after the Arab conquest, archæological evidence which it is possible to verify inscriptionally by several Coptic graffiti in the tombs of the Necropolis el-Baghat and on the rocks in the near-by mountain, Gebel-et-Têr. Among these latter is a prayer signed and dated in the eighth century after Christ by Severus, son of the Pagarch of Hibis.

H. E. WINLOCK.



FIG. 7. RELIEF OF THE PERIOD  
OF PTOLEMY EUERGETES